

*PARATHROSCINUS*, A NEW GENUS  
OF BEETLES FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA  
(LIMNICHIDAE: CEPHALOBYRRHINAE)

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*Abstract.*—The genus *Parathroscinus* is characterized. A new species, *P. orientalis*, is described from the Philippine Islands and *P. oculatus* (Motschulsky) is transferred to the genus from *Byrrhinus*.

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The limnichid subfamily Cephalobyrrhinae (Champion, 1925) has heretofore contained only the genus *Cephalobyrrhus* Pic (1923) from the Old World and *Throscinus* LeConte (1874) from the New World. While attempting to determine a series of limnichids from the Philippine Islands I discovered a few beetles that obviously belonged to the subfamily but which agreed with neither genus. Recently, while examining types of limnichids described by Motschulsky from India, I discovered that the specimens he had described as *Byrrhinus oculatus* are actually not *Byrrhinus* but belong to the Cephalobyrrhinae and are closely allied to the new Philippine species. This paper describes the new taxa and transfers Motschulsky's species to the new genus.

**Parathroscinus**, new genus

*Type-species.* *Parathroscinus orientalis* Wooldridge, here designated.

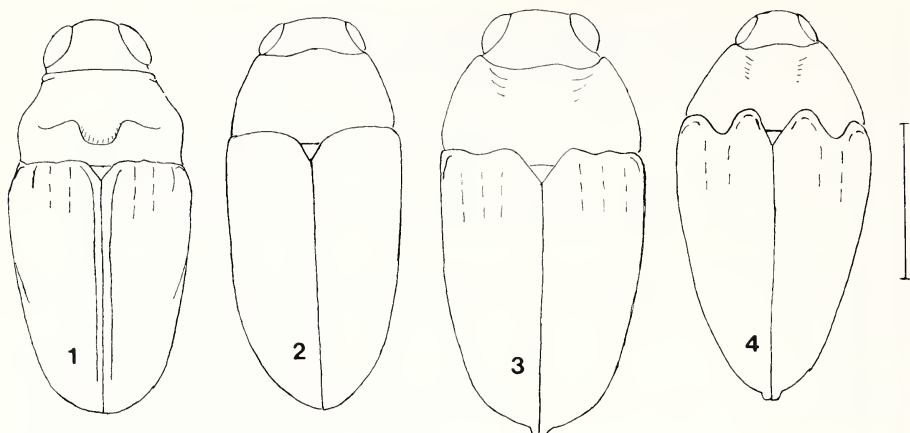
*General.* Color black except legs red-brown, antennae and palpi dark red-brown. Body elongate oval, shallowly convex. Overall vestiture short, dense, even, recumbent, with scattered erect longer hairs except on legs. Punctuation variable from fine to impressed, sometimes forming indistinct rows on elytra.

*Head.* Vertical, broad; eyes large, prominent, visible from above, separated on vertex by more than their diameters; antennae inserted in shallow depressions on front between eyes, segments 6 to 11 forming a slightly flattened, gradually enlarged club.

*Thorax.* Pronotum narrowing from base, sinuate at base; disk evenly, strongly convex, no sinuous depression; sides margined, margins continuous in outline with elytral margins. Scutellum of moderate size. Prosternal process broad and flat. Metacoxae contiguous, transverse, flattened to about middle, grooved for reception of femora.

*Elytra.* Narrowing gradually from humeri, attenuate toward rear; humeri prominent; sides margined; epipleural folds continuous to apex; faint longitudinal grooves from base onto disk of each elytron; elytral apices slightly projecting.

*Abdomen.* Closely punctate; first visible sternum with a low, curved, longitudinal ridge on each side from the inner metacoxal margin to the posterior margin of the



Figs. 1-4. Dorsal views showing relative shapes. 1. *Cephalobyrrhus* sp. 2. *Throscinus* sp. 3. *Parathroscinus orientalis*. 4. *P. oculatus*. Line equals 1 mm.

sternum; fifth visible sternum notched at tip, with a short longitudinal depression extending forward from middle of notch.

This genus can be separated from *Cephalobyrrhus* by the form of the pronotum. *Cephalobyrrhus* (Fig. 1) has a sinuous, depressed, more or less transverse groove near the base of the pronotum; there is no sign of the groove in *Parathroscinus*. From *Throscinus*, *Parathroscinus* differs in having the antennae set in shallow depressions on the sides of the front (Fig. 5) rather than in deep pit-like excavations as in *Throscinus* (Fig. 6). *Throscinus* also appears parallel-sided (Fig. 2) while *Parathroscinus* narrows from about the humeral angles (Figs. 3, 4).

#### ***Parathroscinus orientalis*, new species**

Figs. 3, 7

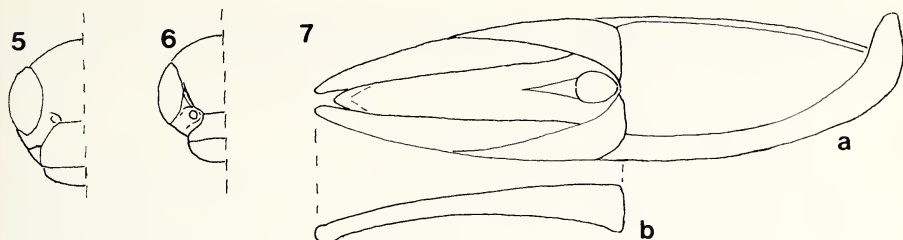
*Holotype*. ♂, Philippine Islands, Calian, Davao Prov., Mindanao, VII.23.30. C. F. Clagg (FMNH).

*Allotype*. ♀, same data as holotype.

*Paratypes*. 25 specimens, same data as holotype (22 FMNH, 3 in author's collection); Philippine Is., 1910-1912, 3 spec. Acc. No. 8643, 2 spec. Acc. No. 8457, Lot Bu. of Sci., P.I. (BMNH).

*Diagnosis*. This species has the bases of the elytra and pronotum less acutely sinuate than *oculatus* (Fig. 3).

*Description of holotype*. Length 2.3 mm; greatest width 1.3 mm; elongate oval, convex. Black. Overall vestiture of short variegated silver and yellow hairs and longer gray hairs. Head with small, even punctuation; eyes prominent, oval; antennae with first segment small and short, 2nd and 3rd larger and longer,  $2 > 3$ ; 4 and 5 smaller in diameter,  $4 < 5$ ; 6 to 11 gradually enlarged, slightly flattened,  $11 > 10$ . Pronotum with punctuation somewhat impressed at sides, not impressed on disk; base shallowly bisinuate. Elytra with regular, impressed punctuation, punctures separated by  $2-3 \times$



Figs. 5–7. 5, 6. Frontal view of right side of head showing antennal insertions. 5. *Parathroscinus*. 6. *Throscinus*. 7. *Parathroscinus orientalis*, male genitalia: a, dorsal view; b, paramere, lateral view. Overall length 0.45 mm.

their diameters; humeri prominent; each elytron with a small, broad, flat tooth at apex. Ventral punctation minute, even. Prosternal process broad, hatchet-shaped, margined at sides. Epipleura with a row of punctures on inner margin.

Aedeagus with parameres evenly converging to the rounded tips; penis broad and flat, narrowing to an acute tip; basal piece about as long as parameres (Fig. 7).

*Variation.* Except for length (2.25–2.75 mm) there is little variation. In the female the tooth at the tip of each elytron is broader than in the male. A single specimen from Quan Nam Prov., Viet Nam, in the U.S. National Museum probably belongs to this species but it differs somewhat in its punctation and it has not been included as a paratype.

### *Parathroscinus oculatus* (Motschulsky), **New Combination**

Fig. 4

*Byrrhinus oculatus* Motschulsky, 1858, p. 52. Ind. or. Lectotype here designated.

*Type-material.* There are three specimens of Motschulsky's type-series mounted on a single card in the Moscow Lomonosov State University Museum. These have been numbered by me and the following labels are on the pin. 1. A small yellow disk. 2. Handwritten on yellow: *Byrrhinus/oculatus/Motsch./Ind. or.* 3. On blue: Spec. #1 Lectotype/*Byrrhinus/oculatus/Motsch. 1858/by D. Wooldridge 1983.* 4. On blue: Lectoparatype/*Byrrhinus/oculatus/Motsch. 1858/by D. Wooldridge/Spec. #2+3.* 5. *Parathroscinus/oculatus/(Motsch.)/Det. D.P. Wooldridge.*

Another specimen with only a yellow disk is among the types of *Limnichus orientalis* Motsch. and has been labelled as *P. oculatus* by me.

*Diagnosis.* This species can be separated from *orientalis* by the acutely bisinuate bases of the pronotum and elytra (Fig. 4). Because of this situation *oculatus* superficially resembles a *Byrrhinus*. Motschulsky noted in his original description that it should probably be in a new genus.

*Description of lectotype.* Length 2.4 mm, width 1.2 mm; elongate oval, convex. Eyes large and prominent. Pronotum with fine, shallow punctation; base deeply and acutely bisinuate on either side of scutellum. Elytra with shallowly impressed punctation, punctures separated by 2–3 × their own diameters, punctures regular, forming

vague longitudinal rows; bases bisinuate; strongly attenuate, tapering from humeri to apex, humeri prominent. Prosternal process broad, margined at sides. Metasternum, metacoxal plates, and abdomen finely, closely, evenly punctate.

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